



## NORTHERN LANDSCAPE PAINTING

79 Albrecht Altdorfer. *Danube Landscape*. c. 1520. Painting on panel. 12 × 8 1/4 in. (30.5 × 22 cm.) Alte Pinakothek, Munich. Northern landscape painting often seems to be epitomised in the work of Breughel. He had, however, many predecessors including Geerigen tot Sint Jans, Patenir and Dürer all of whom,

in different ways, devoted particular attention to painting of the countryside. Albrecht Altdorfer, in a completely different part of Germany, was also a highly individual landscape artist, producing evocative studies of pine-clad hills and mountain lakes. Normally at this date a token figure subject was still attached to a painting, but here the landscape has taken complete control.

80 Pieter Breughel the Elder. *Landscape with Gallows*. Signed and dated 1568. Painting on panel. 18 × 20 in. (46 × 51 cm.) Hessisches Landesmuseum, Darmstadt. The subject-matter of Breughel's paintings is frequently enigmatic. Here the beauty of the landscape and the harmless games of the children seem deliberately contrasted with the gaunt shape of the empty gallows. In common with much of Breughel's work, the beauty of the scene probably holds also a simple moral message.

